



YOUR MOVIE GUIDE

24 Holiday
Gift Ideas

Famous

» NOVEMBER 2008 » VOLUME 9 » NUMBER 11

DOWN &
OUT WITH
**JAMIE
FOXX**

PORNO STAR
**ELIZABETH
BANKS**

Gemma
Arterton

Meet the

• **BOND**
Girls

Olga
Kurylenko

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» **SNAPS:** ANGELINA JOLIE, KATE WINSLET, PETER SARSGAARD, KRISTIN SCOTT THOMAS

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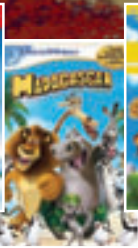
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Famous Inside

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GIRLS ON FILM >> Say hello to **Gemma Arterton** and **Olga Kurylenko**, the lovely ladies who get to enjoy some no-strings attached lovin' with broken-hearted Agent 007 [Daniel Craig] in the new James Bond flick *Quantum of Solace*. Here these opposite Bond Girls — British drama school grad Arterton is an actor on the rise, while Ukrainian model-turned-actor Kurylenko survived a destitute childhood on her way to Hollywood — talk about how much fun it is to play a Bond babe • **By David Giammarco**



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• **By Ingrid Randoja**

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• **By Marni Weisz**

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You may not recognize fun-loving **Jamie Foxx** in his latest role — he stars as a homeless, mentally ill musical genius in *The Soloist*.
• **By Bob Strauss**

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rav4.ca



BOND BETWEEN GIRLS

Was that it? We had our chance and now it’s over?

For decades we knew James Bond as a promiscuous, womanizing stud who, while never being overtly misogynistic, was incapable of forming a real romantic connection with any woman. And he had quite a buffet from which to choose — spicy redheads, busty blondes and wicked brunettes who, as a group, even spawned their own term: Bond Girls.

But as the franchise got its reboot with the 2006 prequel *Casino Royale*, the ladies (and gentlemen) who love a good romance were thrown a bone. This new Bond would fall in love, for realies this time. And it would be a love so great that when it broke we’d finally understand why Bond would never love again, not truly. Sigh.

The fact that it was Daniel Craig with those watery blue eyes and big shoulders who did the falling didn’t hurt. We knew his love would be fleeting, but we were caught up in the moment so we didn’t care. And then it ended, as we knew it would.

So what now? Must we make do, once again, with a deadly assassin who has no capacity for real romantic connection?

From the sounds of it, yes. Turn to “Double Your Pleasure,” page 44, to meet *Quantum of Solace*’s two new Bond Girls. There’s **Olga Kurylenko** who plays a woman as damaged as Bond himself, with the result being, as Kurylenko flatly puts it, “She doesn’t care about meeting a boyfriend.” And there’s **Gemma Arterton** as Agent Fields, a more classic Bond Girl who, from what we’ve heard, has her way with Bond in that classic way that classic Bond Girls do (read: she won’t be getting a ring, and won’t be back for the next movie).

One glance at the photo of **Jamie Foxx** that accompanies our interview with the actor and it’s clear that he really went for it this time. The movie, *The Soloist*, comes out next spring and is based on the true story of a homeless musician. Hmmm...a true story about a musician who led a tragic life. Methinks Foxx has been here before...and with award-winning results. Read “Getting Serious with Jamie Foxx,” page 40, to find out how Foxx tapped into his own musical background for this role.

There should be an award for the actor who plays the two most diverse characters in a one-month period. **Elizabeth Banks** would win. On October 17th she hit theatres as Laura Bush in Oliver Stone’s *W.*, and now she’s playing a woman who makes her rent money by having sex with her BFF in front of a camera in *Zack and Miri Make a Porno*. In “She’s Got Balls,” page 22, Banks explains why she was so comfortable with the raunchy role.

Kristin Scott Thomas had critics buzzing at the Toronto International Film Festival. They said that her performance in the French film *Il y a longtemps que je t’aime* (*I’ve Loved You So Long*) was one of the best of the year. In “French Immersion,” page 26, Scott Thomas explains her approach to her character, a cold and broken woman just released from jail.

////////////////////////////////////
Marni Weisz, editor

Famous

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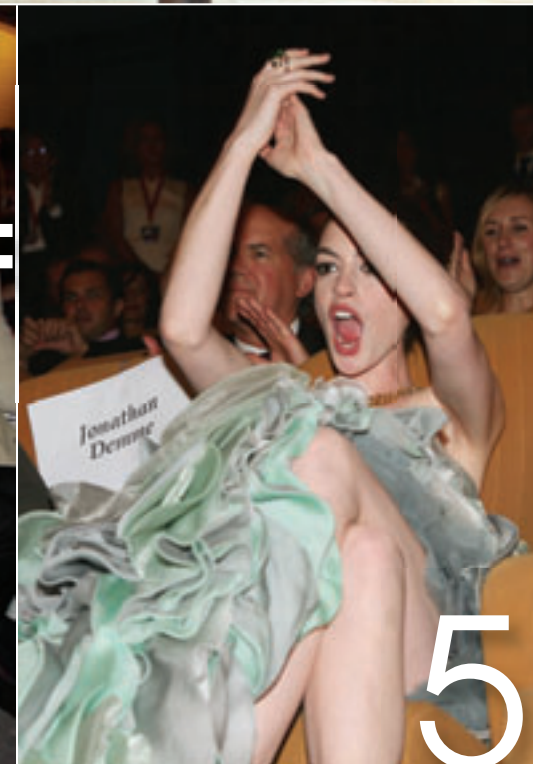
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CAUGHT ON FILM

KATE WINSLET
ANGELINA JOLIE
ANNE HATHAWAY
MILLA JOVOVICH
PETER SARSGAARD
KRISTIN SCOTT THOMAS



1 Ah, the New York intelligentsia has a new king. Peter Sarsgaard enjoys the applause following his debut in The Royal Court Theatre's production of Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*. That's co-star Kristin Scott Thomas clapping upstage.

PHOTO BY BRUCE GILKAS/FILMMAGIC

2 Kate Winslet busts a move outside a New York City restaurant. She and her two friends had just enjoyed a nice dinner...with wine.

PHOTO BY TOM MEINELT-JACKSON LEE/SPLASH-KEYSTONE

3 An appropriately witchy-looking Angelina Jolie takes three-fifths of her brood — from left, Maddox, Shiloh and Zahara — for a walk through the streets of New Orleans.

PHOTO BY SPLASH-KEYSTONE

4 Now that's how you smile with your eyes. Model-turned-actor Milla Jovovich gives the snappers her fiercest pose at Jean Paul Gaultier's Paris show. That's her her fiancé, *Death Race* director Paul W.S. Anderson, looking on in admiration.

PHOTO BY ERIC RYAN/GETTY

5 Careful girl! Anne Hathaway risks being swallowed up by her folding chair as she hollers at a Venice screening of her latest film, *Rachel Getting Married*.

PHOTO BY FRANCO ORIGLIA/GETTY

ENTERTAINMENT IN BRIEF

Saying goodbye to **Bernie Mac** and **Isaac Hayes**.
Plus, keeping an eye on James Bond



SOUL MATES

We have this recurring image of Bernie Mac (above, left) and Issac Hayes (right) sitting on a big cloud in heaven, laughing, singing, and thanking the Lord that they get to skip the press junket for *Soul Men*. Those things are hell.

Of course, being a Scientologist, Hayes wouldn't have believed in heaven, but rather in a form of reincarnation. Unfortunately, that just made our daydream too complicated.

Strangely, *Soul Men*, which is released November 7th, has death running all through it. Mac and Samuel Jackson star as

former members of a Motown-type band who reunite to honour their recently deceased group leader by taking part in a tribute concert at the Apollo Theater. Musician Hayes — most famous for writing the *Shaft* theme and voicing Chef on *South Park* — plays himself in an extended cameo.

Mac and Hayes died just one day apart this past August. Mac went first on August 9th, succumbing to pneumonia, and Hayes of a stroke suffered while running on a treadmill in his Memphis home on August 10th.

In an interview with *USA Today*, the film's director Malcolm Lee describes getting a call about Mac's death one day, and then a call about Hayes the very next day. "It was surreal," Lee says. "It had to be some sort of bad dream that these two giants would die on the same weekend, and both would be in my movie."

In another strange twist, *Soul Men* isn't the only movie Mac has coming out on November 7th. He's also the voice of Zuba, Alex the Lion's dad, in *Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa*. —MW



Artifact

THIS MONTH'S OBJET DE FILM » **BOND'S BIG EYE**

While about \$200-million worth of extravagant sets were indeed built specifically for the new Bond movie, *Quantum of Solace*, you may be surprised to learn that one of the most stunning structures was merely borrowed.

The surreal blue eye that dominates the stage during the scene where 007 battles baddies during a production of Giacomo Puccini's *Tosca* belongs to Austria's Bregenz Festival, renowned for mounting summer-long productions on a floating stage known as Seebühne Bregenz.

Director Marc Forster felt that the giant eye fit perfectly into the Bond style (eyes often figure prominently in the franchise's iconic opening-credit sequences), and made arrangements to spend 10 days shooting on the stage.

During actual performances of *Tosca*, that disconnected iris opens to reveal new characters and closes to serve as a screen on which images of the opera's title character, a jealous soprano, are projected. —MW

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SPOTLIGHT



RACHELLE LEFEVRE WANTS TO SUCK YOUR BLOOD

Montreal-born actor Rachelle Lefevre knew landing the role of villainous vampire Victoria in the movie adaptation of Stephenie Meyer's hugely popular teen vampire novel *Twilight* was a big deal. But she wasn't prepared for the surveillance.

"One of my friends forwarded me a link to a website where somebody had pictures, and initially it just looked like it was pictures of vans on the highway," says the 29-year-old on the line from Montreal. "And then I read the caption with an arrow and it said, 'Twilight cast riding to set in this van.' And I thought, 'Holy Jesus.' Here we were riding to the set and unbeknownst to us some car is behind us taking pictures through the windshield. It's just so, so huge."

The film, directed by Catherine Hardwicke (*Thirteen*), revolves around 17-year-old Bella (Kristen Stewart), who's in love with vampire

hunk Edward (Robert Pattinson). Edward and his clan of vampires survive on animal blood, but there are other vampires, including the fiery, red-headed Victoria, who feed off humans.

Lefevre, last seen onscreen in *Fugitive Pieces*, loved being a baddie. "I'm Canadian, I'm polite, we are nice people and we are raised to be friendly, and I got total permission to be the exact opposite. There are a million ways Victoria can be played, there are a million forms of evil, and I think the obvious choice to play her would have been to play pure meanness, but then I thought, what can I bring to this? Why cast me instead of somebody else? So I made her playfully menacing, and that was a really fun discovery for me. Catherine really latched onto it and said, 'Have more fun, make it even more delicious,' so I did." ■

Ingrid Randoja

PHOTO BY JOCELYN MICHEL

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IN THEATRES

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO NEW RELEASES BY INGRID RANDOJA

7
november



The critters from *Madagascar* return in *Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa*

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa

In this sequel to *Madagascar*, New York City zoo critters Alex the lion (**Ben Stiller**), Marty the Zebra (**Chris Rock**), Melman the giraffe (**David Schwimmer**) and Gloria the hippo (**Jada Pinkett Smith**) find themselves stranded once again, this time on the African continent where they come face-to-face with untamed animals of their own kind.

JCVD

The Muscles from Brussels satirizes himself in this comedy that was a surprise hit at the Toronto International Film Fest. Depressed and humiliated after losing custody of his daughter, **Jean-Claude Van Damme**

stumbles upon a heist at a Belgian bank...and must spring into action to avoid being fingered as the robber.

Soul Men

The late **Bernie Mac** and **Samuel L. Jackson** team up to play R&B backup singers who haven't spoken to one another in 20 years but reluctantly agree to travel cross-country together to perform in a tribute concert for their late bandleader. You'll see a much slimmer Bernie Mac here as the comedian was ill during filming and died earlier this year at age 50. *Soul Men* isn't Mac's final film, the comedy *Old Dogs*, co-starring **Robin Williams** and **John Travolta**, will be released next April.

Role Models

When energy drink reps Danny (**Paul Rudd**) and Wheeler (**Seann William Scott**) get into legal trouble, Danny's girlfriend (**Elizabeth Banks**) manages to get their sentence reduced to community service, meaning the screw-ups become big brothers to two needy kids (**Christopher Mintz-Plasse** and **Bobb'e J. Thompson**).



Synecdoche, New York

Writer **Charlie Kaufman**'s (*Adaptation*) directorial debut mines comfortable territory for the self-referential storyteller as **Philip Seymour Hoffman** plays a navel-gazing playwright who stages a reproduction of his own life.

Il y a longtemps que je t'aime (I've Loved You So Long)

Brit **Kristin Scott Thomas** (who lives in France and speaks French fluently) stars in this French drama about a woman who moves in with her sister's family after spending 15 years in prison. **See Kristin Scott Thomas interview, page 26.**

continued →

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— JAMES WOLF, *perdu.com*

— OWEN GLEIBERMAN, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

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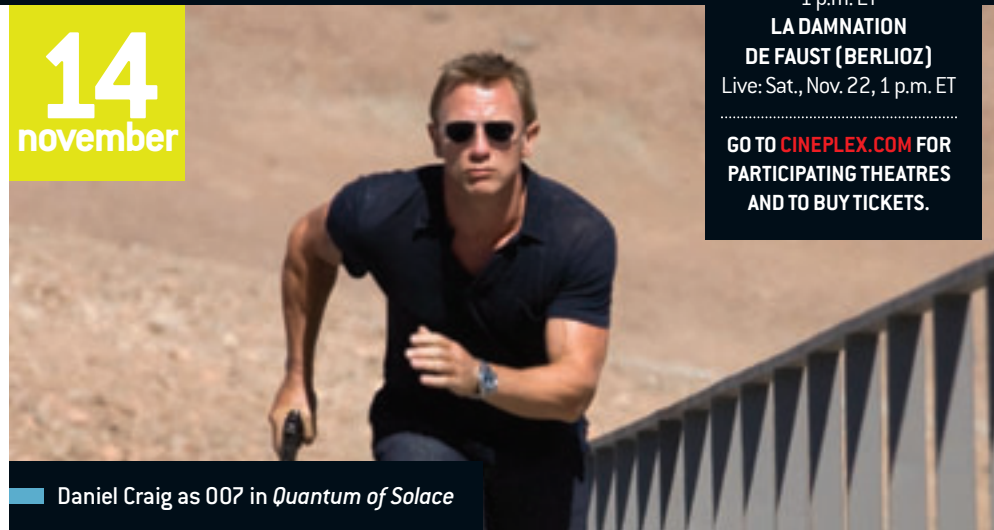
Dev Patel and Freida Pinto in *Slumdog Millionaire*

Slumdog Millionaire

Director **Danny Boyle** (*Trainspotting*) examines the foibles of modern-day Indian society with this crowd-pleasing dramedy about the teenage Jamal (**Dev Patel**), who's got a crush on Latiko (**Freida Pinto**), so appears on her favourite TV show, the Hindi version of *Who Wants To Be a Millionaire*, to get her attention.

Quantum of Solace

James Bond (**Daniel Craig**) is very, very, upset, and you don't want to upset a superspy with lethal skills. In this sequel to *Casino Royale*, Bond is reeling after the death of his true love Vesper Lynd. He enlists the help of MI6's Agent Fields (**Gemma Arterton**) and the mysterious Camille (**Olga Kurylenko**) to help him enact revenge on those responsible. **See Gemma Arterton and Olga Kurylenko interview, page 44.**



■ Daniel Craig as 007 in *Quantum of Solace*

Bolt

Walt Disney's Animation Studio (*Meet the Robinsons*, *Chicken Little*) has long been overshadowed by the tremendous success of rival-turned-associate Pixar Animation. However, it hopes to reverse that trend with this 3D movie about canine Bolt (voiced by **John Travolta**), who plays a TV superdog. Bolt believes he really does possess superpowers, but the truth comes out when he's stranded and desperately needs the help of an abandoned housecat (**Susie Essman**) and a hamster (**Mark Walton**) to make his way back to Hollywood.

Twilight

Based on the first book of author **Stephenie Meyer's** mega-successful series for teens, *Twilight* focuses on the forbidden love between bloodsucker Edward (**Robert Pattinson**) and regular old human gal Bella (**Kristen Stewart**). They fight their desire for one another while a clan of less loving vampires, which includes the nasty Victoria (Canadian actor **Rachelle Lefevre**), want Bella dead. **Catherine Hardwicke** (*Thirteen*) directs. **See Rachelle Lefevre interview, page 16.**

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26
november



■ **Australia's Nicole Kidman and Hugh Jackman**

Australia

Aussie director **Baz Luhrmann** reportedly pitched this sweeping romance as “*Titanic* on land,” and it worked as Fox Studios provided him a budget of \$130-million (which was gobbled up before he finished shooting, leaving him to ask for more money). The

film focuses on British aristocrat Lady Ashley (**Nicole Kidman**), who inherits a sprawling Australian cattle ranch when her husband dies. Left alone and forced to move a huge herd of cattle across the country during WWII, she asks a gruff cattleman (**Hugh Jackman**) to accompany her on the perilous journey.

Four Christmases

Brad (**Vince Vaughn**) and Kate (**Reese Witherspoon**) plan to escape Christmas at home in San Francisco, but those plans are scuttled when their flight is fogged in, meaning they must endure visits to all four of their divorced parents, and their annoying families.

Fanboys

Who can say no to a dying friend, especially when his final wish is that you drive cross-country with your pals and sneak into **George Lucas'** Skywalker Ranch to steal an early copy of *Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace*? The Weinstein Company planned to release the nerdy comedy minus the whole “dying friend” subplot. But *Star Wars* fans put up a stink and Weinstein relented, agreeing to release director **Kyle Newman's** original version.

Milk

The buzz is building around director **Gus Van Sant's** bio-pic of real-life politician Harvey Milk, and in particular for **Sean Penn's** performance as Milk, who in 1977 became the first openly gay man to be elected to office in the U.S. when he won a seat on San Francisco's Board of Supervisors. Unfortunately, homophobia and hatred prevailed and Milk was gunned down by fellow supervisor Dan White (**Josh Brolin**).

Transporter 3

Frank Martin (**Jason Statham**) doesn't know how to smile, but he does know how to drive cars and knock heads. In this third installment of the action-packed franchise, Martin has relocated to Paris where he continues to be hired by not-so-nice people to deliver questionable "packages."



Twilight's hunky vampire Edward (Robert Pattinson)

20 FAMOUS » NOVEMBER 2008



Swear like a trucker?
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Elizabeth Banks
proves she's got
bigger cojones than
your average starlet
with her role in the
potty-mouthed
Kevin Smith flick
*Zack and Miri
Make a Porno*

SHE'S GOT BALLS

BY INGRID RANDOJA

In the span of three short weeks — 21 days — you can catch Elizabeth Banks in three movies. And those three — *W.*, *Zack and Miri Make a Porno* and *Role Models* — join her other 2008 releases, *Meet Dave* and *Definitely, Maybe*, bringing her total to five films in a single year.

Suddenly, the 34-year-old actor has become a female Jude Law. “Oh God, don’t say that,” shouts Banks when reminded of Law’s much maligned 2004, the year in which he released six films. “There was a curse on him. How dare you! Take it back,” she says laughing.

Banks, who is rail-thin and dressed in skinny jeans and a gossamer white top, is sitting alone at a large table in an empty banquet room inside a Toronto hotel. She’s come to the Toronto International Film Festival to promote her one movie that has people both guffawing

and gasping — director Kevin Smith’s potty-mouth comedy *Zack and Miri Make a Porno*, which takes dirty talk to a new level.

The film co-stars Seth Rogen and Banks as the film’s titular characters, platonic best friends who are so broke that they decide to make a porno movie together to earn some fast cash. However, the thought of them actually “doing it” with one another leads to unexpected emotional complications. Since this is a Kevin Smith comedy, the language is rude, crude and very funny, which didn’t intimidate Banks in the slightest.

“Unfortunately, I swear like a trucker and talk about my vagina all the time,” says Banks semi-seriously. “Maybe I hang out with a lot of dirt bags, but that’s how everyone I know **continued** →

Danny and Wheeler were just sentenced to 150 hours mentoring kids.
Worst idea ever.



BY PHOTO BY WATT CARR/GETTY

“Unfortunately, I swear like a trucker and talk about my vagina all the time,” says Banks. “Maybe I hang out with a lot of dirt bags, but that’s how everyone I know talks”

→→→ talks. So the script wasn’t shocking to me when I read it, and certainly after seeing Kevin’s movies, that’s what you expect from him. He has a really distinct American voice and he captures how a certain generation of Americans speak in their daily lives, and that’s why I think he’s so popular.”

And the movie doesn’t shy away from showing naked naughty bits and including simulated sex scenes either, although for the very tender encounter between Rogen and Banks the two stars remained fully clothed.

“It’s a beautiful scene,” she says. “I really think Miri falls in love, and her heart just bursts open in that moment. And it begins with that horrible porn dialogue, and that was sort of our foreplay, and we really got to play around with it. I mean, Seth and I were giggling and laughing, and it’s like, ‘Okay, we’re really doing this.’”

“It’s always uncomfortable to shoot those scenes, but Seth and I have great chemistry, he’s a really good kisser, and he’s totally adorable, and I have no problem loving him.”

Banks and Rogen first starred together in *The 40-Year-Old Virgin* and it was apparent to her then that Rogen possessed a certain undeniable charm that audiences couldn’t resist.

“They throw this word around, ‘Everyman,’ all the time, but he really is representative of, I think, men’s insecurities. They are all wrapped up in him. Seth is someone who is not afraid to let those hang out in his movie roles. And also his appeal lies in that he gets laid in his movies *and* he can still be totally insecure and hang out with his friends. I mean, the problem for me with those movies like *The 40-Year-Old Virgin* or *Knocked Up*, is that they are no longer ‘romantic comedies,’ they are ‘bromantic comedies.’”

“It’s a big problem for women because we have nothing to do in those movies. It’s not about a male-female relationship, and his appeal, I think, comes in the scenes when he is hanging out with his buddies and his true nature is revealed, that he loves comic books or internet porn, everything Seth actually does love in his real life [laughing].”

Off-screen Banks is married to her college sweetheart, producer Max Handelman, whom she met on her very first day attending the University of Pennsylvania. Although Banks had acted as a teenager in high school productions in her small hometown of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, by the time she was in college studying for a B.A. she felt certain her acting days were behind her.

“I never thought I was going to be an actor when I was in school, not once,” she remembers. “All I knew was I didn’t want to be poor. And what I knew about actors was that they were starving artists and I was a starving student at the time, and I was done with it — I did not want to starve. My friends who were actors were applying to drama school when I was graduating college, and I thought, well, okay, I’ll



Elizabeth Banks and Seth Rogen conduct a casting call at a strip club in *Zack and Miri Make a Porno*
Right: Banks, Justin Long and Rogen

do that and it will be a sign — if I get in then I’m supposed to go this route, and if I don’t get in then the door gets slammed in my face and it’s over. And I got in, and I’ve never looked back.”

Banks refers to herself as a “character actress trapped in a leading lady’s body,” which explains why she was thrilled to take on *Zack and Miri* and finally strip away the lingering “girl-next-door” label that hangs loosely beside her name.

“I’m excited for people to see the different things I can do,” she says. “It’s one of the reasons why I could not pass up working with

Kevin Smith, because I think Kevin, in comedy circles, writes women better than most. They are never relegated to just being ‘the girl’ in the movie, they always have genuine character arcs, there’s always a problem for them to solve and I talk just as dirty as Seth does!

“I’ve played ‘the girl’ many times and it’s very hard to find movies where you are not ‘the girl’ that actually pay you any money, so I felt this movie was something I couldn’t pass up.”

Ingrid Randoja is the deputy editor of *Famous*.



SHE’S GOT RANGE

Talk about extreme acting. Within two weeks, Elizabeth Banks plays America’s conservative sweetheart Laura Bush (seen here) in the George Bush bio-pic *W.*, and a woman who has sex with her best friend (Seth Rogen) on camera for money in *Zack and Miri Make a Porno*.



ZACK AND MIRI MAKE A PORNO OPENS OCTOBER 31ST



FRENCH IMMERSION

Kristin Scott Thomas seethes, en français, for *Il y a longtemps que je t'aime*

◆ BY INGRID RANDOJA

Like an old Polaroid tucked inside a desk drawer, Kristin Scott Thomas had faded from view.

After taking Hollywood by storm in romantic fare such as *The English Patient* (1996) and *The Horse Whisperer* (1998), the British-born actor with the plummy, upper-crust accent and porcelain skin turned her back on American movies to focus on making European films and performing theatre, primarily in her adopted homeland of France.

She began acting, in French, in small films. Yet she had never really tested herself, that is until *Il y a longtemps que je t'aime* (*I've Loved You So Long*).

The French-language film (with subtitles in English Canada) is directed by Philippe Claudel and stars Thomas as Juliette, a woman who goes to live with her sister after having spent 15 years in prison. Initially, Juliette is remote, closed-off, seething inside, and Thomas plays her with unflinching honesty.

"Because the screenplay is beautifully written, we could see everything," says Thomas about her character's internal struggles, "so I felt confident about not showing that much, not being too demonstrative. I felt confident it would all show, and there are no great, big, chunky, descriptive passages of 'How I feel.' They just didn't exist."

Thomas is curled up on a chair in the upstairs bar of a Toronto hotel. She's here at the Toronto International Film Festival to chat about *Il y a longtemps que je t'aime*, a film that shines a spotlight back on the 48-year-old actor and divorced mother of three children — Hannah (20), Joseph (17) and Georges (8).

In fact, in a year when there have been very few standout performances from female actors, Thomas' turn has Oscar oddsmakers talking about a probable Best Actress nomination, which makes her more than a little wary.

"I find it very anxious-making. I'd rather not think about it," says Thomas. "I don't want to be pointed out, making movies is a collaboration, it's absolute teamwork."

"The one positive thing about awards, and I don't mean to be disparaging — I just received a Laurence Olivier award and it made my year, I was so thrilled, so everyone wants to win awards and it's rubbish if they say they don't — but the important thing about them is that they get people to see a film, and I think it would be good for people to see this film."

Il y a longtemps que je t'aime is already a hit in France, and was recently released in the U.K. Although Thomas left Britain when she was 19 (she took a job as an au pair in Paris and never returned), she's still held in high esteem by her fellow Brits.

"I'm very popular with a show called *Top Gear*, a motoring show," she says with a laugh. "I've only seen it once or twice because I don't live in England, but they do this thing with cars, whether a car is cool or not, and the way of measuring its coolness is if I would get into it to be taken on a date — could you take Kristin Scott Thomas for dinner in it. I thought my brothers and sisters were teasing me about it, until I found it was actually this really big thing. It's a huge compliment." ■

Ingrid Randoja is the deputy editor of *Famous*.



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Holiday

PRESENTS AND PREP

With the holidays just around the corner, we offer oodles of ideas

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Getting into the Christmas spirit is as easy as hanging these **Traditional Stockings** (\$13 to \$15) and adorable **Santa Ornament** (\$7) from HomeSense.

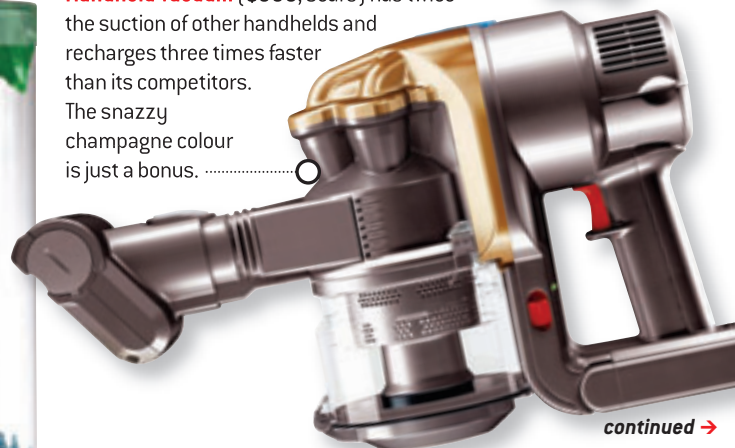


So cute you'll want to collect them all! These **KitchenAid Mixers** (\$400, Home Outfitters) should be opened early to ensure plenty of cakes and cookies on the big day.

Fruits & Passion's Fruity Foaming Bath Gift Set (\$24, Fruits & Passion) comes all dressed up for the holidays in bottles designed with garland-draped Christmas trees in mind.



After the guests have left, someone will have to clean up. The **Dyson DC16 Animal Handheld Vacuum** (\$300, Sears) has twice the suction of other handhelds and recharges three times faster than its competitors. The snazzy champagne colour is just a bonus.



continued →

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TECHNICALLY SPEAKING

→→→ **Motorola's ROKR E8** (\$99 with a 3-year agreement at Rogers) won the People's Voice Award for favourite product at the 2008 Consumer Electronics Show. Why? It's so easy to use, shifting from camera to phone to music player with the touch of a button. And a new navigation wheel lets you scroll through thousands of songs with a flick of your thumb.



Publish a professional-quality book of your photographs right at home with the **HP Photo Book** (\$15 for 5" x 7"; \$25 for 8.5" by 11", photo stores). The kit includes a linen book, software and photo paper.



The **Kodak Easyshare Digital Camera** (\$200, electronics retailers) boasts a whopping 10 megapixels, has a 3X optical zoom lens, a large three-inch LCD screen, automatically adjusts camera settings and reduces blur caused by shaky hands and moving subjects. Plus it comes in red!

Canon's VIXI HF100 High Definition Flash Camcorder (\$1,000, electronics retailers) records directly onto a flash card for easy viewing and editing. The high-definition 12X HD Canon zoom video lens makes for clear movies, and a built-in 3.3 megapixel camera lets you switch to still shots with ease.



What grandparent wouldn't love an **Inspired Solutions LCD Metal Ornament** (\$40, The Source by Circuit City) that displays up to 50 photos of their kin? After the tree's been pitched to the curb, slip the LCD display into the black frame provided and enjoy the pics all year round.

Cute as a button — actually, nine little buttons in a mosaic pattern.

The **ZEN Mozaic** (\$70 for 2 GB, \$90 for 4 GB, Wal-Mart) is a music, photo and video player that fits in the palm of your hand, has a 1.8-inch colour screen, an FM radio, voice recorder and built-in speakers so you can share your tunes.



Ten megapixels not enough? How about 14.7? That's what you get from **Panasonic's Lumix DMC-FX150** (\$450, electronics retailers). It features a 28mm wide-angle lens, 3.6X optical zoom lens and manual exposure, which allows you to control shutter speed for more creative effects.



Naughty Raymond (\$210, Swarovski retail locations or Swarovski.ca) may look like a piece of jewellery — and he is. But this cranky little member of **Swarovski's Active Crystals** collection is also a USB memory key with 2 GB of storage and a high-speed 2.0 interface so you can store up to 500 songs or 2,000 photos!



Can't get home for the holidays? Connect with family and friends via this 1.3 megapixel **Microsoft Lifecam VX-5000 Webcam** (\$60, electronics retailers). The bendable base is easy to mold to any monitor, or just leave it sitting on your desk.

continued →



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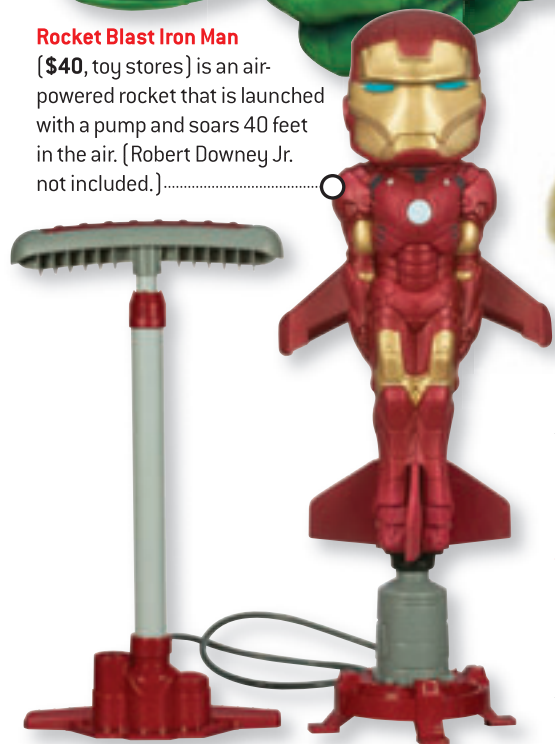
→→→ From **Air Hogs**, the folks that brought you battling miniature helicopters, comes the **Zero Gravity Micro** (\$30, toy stores), a remote-controlled car that — no joke — drives up and down walls and even across ceilings.



Get out your holiday stress with these plush **Hulk Smash Hands** (\$25, toy stores). Smash and bash to activate the electronic sound effects. Bam!



Rocket Blast Iron Man (\$40, toy stores) is an air-powered rocket that is launched with a pump and soars 40 feet in the air. (Robert Downey Jr. not included.)



Stop singing duets with the TV and get one step closer to the real thing with these **High School Musical 3 Sing Together Dolls** (\$29, toy stores). Start singing one of your favourite *HSM3* songs and when you stop, the doll picks up the tune.



All of the proceeds from the **Fuzzy Thomas Bear** (\$20, starlightcanada.org to purchase) go to the Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation, which helps seriously ill kids deal with their situations.



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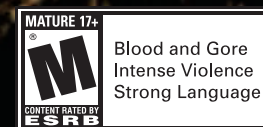
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WINTER WEAR

→→→



○ Nice. **Pink Moose Flannel PJs** (\$19, Joe Fresh) come pre-packaged like a present. Stick a card on and you're done.



○ Naughty. If you wear this **Mesh Baby Doll Set** (\$40, La Senza) only once this year, this is the time. (But we have a feeling it'll make a return appearance.)



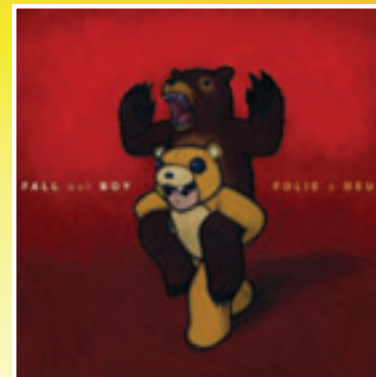
○ This luscious winter-white **Angora Ruffle Sweater** (\$35, Winners) is as comforting as a steaming cup of cocoa and a shortbread cookie.



There's just enough room for a lipstick, a credit card and some cash in this smart **Metal and PVC Clutch** (\$40, Aldo).

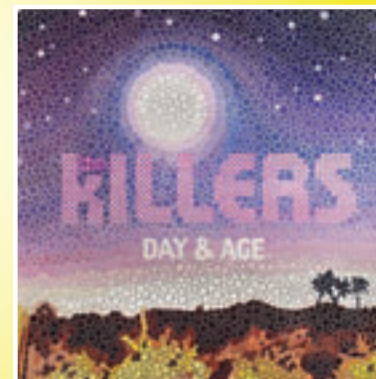


○ Ring in the New Year with retro bling courtesy of this 1920s-inspired **Gold Sequin Dress** from **Twelfth Street by Cynthia Vincent** (\$450, The Bay).



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GETTING SERIOUS WITH JAMIE FOXX

The first time **Jamie Foxx** made a musical bio-pic he earned an Oscar. Now he's playing a musician again in *The Soloist*, the real-life story of a homeless virtuoso, which comes out next spring

BY BOB STRAUSS

ast time we

checked, Jamie Foxx was a triple threat:

funny comedian, chart-topping recording artist and Oscar-winning dramatic actor.

He's applying at least two of those talents — the same combo that earned him the Academy Award for *Ray* — to next spring's dramatic tearjerker *The Soloist*.

Like the Ray Charles bio-pic, this is a true-life musical story. And the person Foxx plays, Nathaniel Ayers, is saddled with a mighty handicap. But similarities end there.

"It's like *A Beautiful Mind* meets *The Pianist*, in a sense," Foxx, biceps pumped large and head shaved almost clean, says of *The Soloist* during an interview in Los Angeles.

Doesn't sound like as much fun as *Ray*. But it could be even more moving.

"It's about a guy who was found underneath an L.A. freeway by Steve Lopez, who is a writer for the *Los Angeles Times*," explains Foxx. "Lopez had a wreck on his bike and heard this beautiful violin being played on two strings. He befriended the guy, found out he went to Juilliard, and this story went in the paper and people started sending cellos and violins. It's just one of those stories that, when you read it, it really works on you."

That's because the talented musician was not only homeless, but schizophrenic.

Co-starring the hottest actor of the year, Robert Downey Jr., as Lopez and directed by Britain's Joe Wright (*Atonement*), *The Soloist* has all the earmarks of an emotional class act.

And Foxx may never have worked more painstakingly on a role. To start, he had to learn to play, well, violin and cello. Perhaps

not as hard as it sounds for someone who started piano lessons at the age of five, and who went to college on a music scholarship. Still, doesn't it take years of practice to make either of those string things even listenable?

"I hadn't played the violin and cello before," Foxx says. "I mean, we've all touched everybody's instruments while we were playing...okay, that didn't come out right! But we've all messed around with the drums or the violin or the cello, so it's all in you because you work right next to that person. It's just a matter of finding your way to express yourself with that cello."

Easy for him to say. As for the acting part of the gig, Foxx avoided the one thing that you'd think he'd **continued →**

CLIFFHANGER.



→→→ take full advantage of: getting to know Ayers personally.

“I got a chance to watch him,” Foxx recalls like it was the most extraordinary privilege. “I didn’t want to meet him, because sometimes when you meet people, then they change. I just wanted to watch, get those jewels of nuances. At first I was told he was very skinny, but he’s not. He pushed a cart around that, I guess, is about 200 pounds. You have to be strong down where he lives, because the people down there... it’s very dangerous.

“But he’s a very interesting person. Very posh, if that makes sense, because he does come from this classical background. So even within this crazy jungle where he’s living, he still has sort of this air to him. He’s a beautiful person and it was a great opportunity to get under his skin.”

Foxx’s approach paid off, according to an authoritative, if totally biased, source.

“Jamie really nailed it,” co-star Downey says during a recent chat. “I got to see that thing that one or two people said when we were shooting *Chaplin*, about someone just so diving into something that it’s, like, this transforming event.”

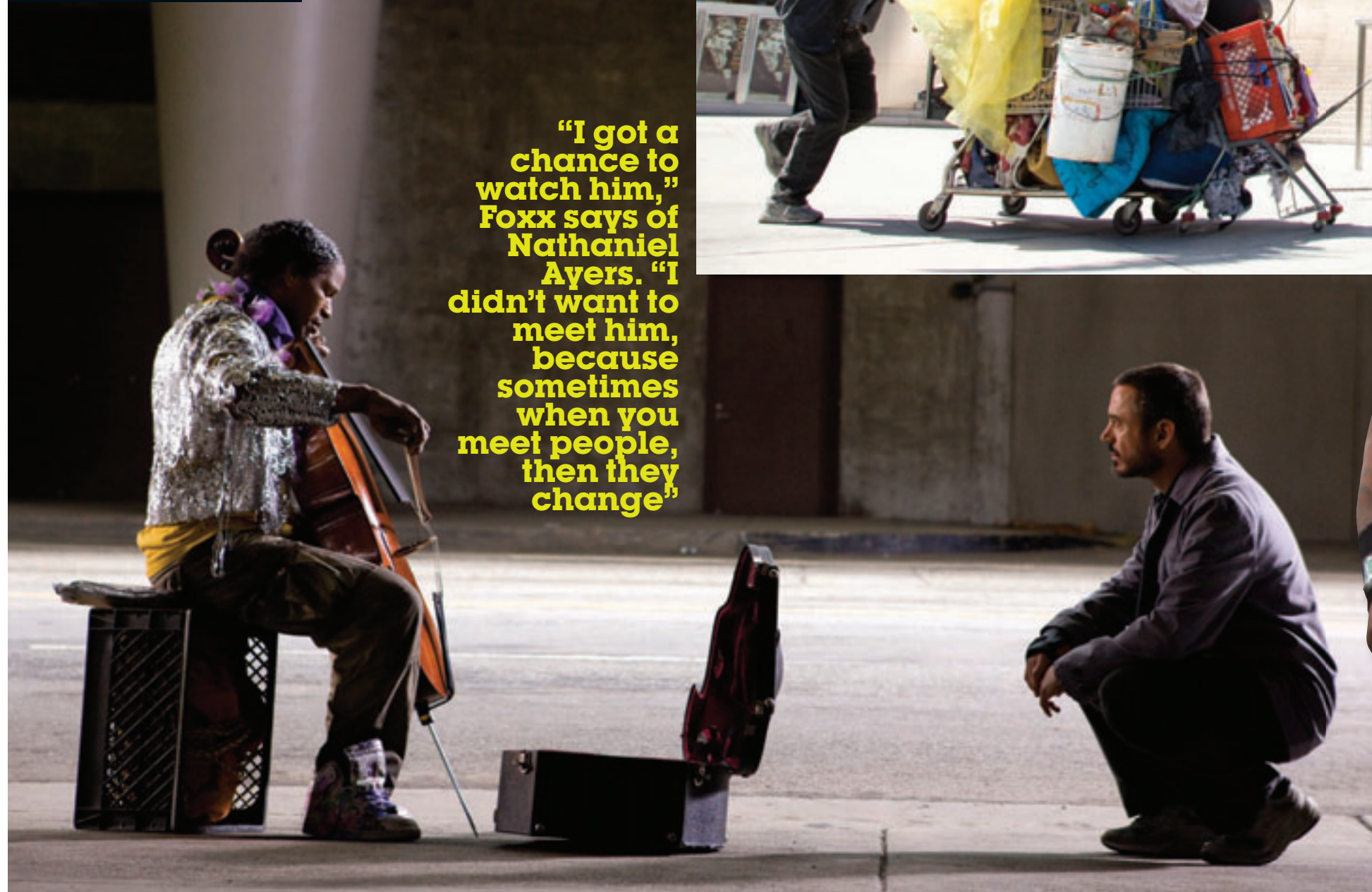
This about a guy we first came to know making a jackass of himself on TV’s *In Living Color* and in movies such as *Boozy Call*.

But Foxx has always been a multitasked overachiever. Raised by his grandparents in the Dallas suburb of Terrell, Texas, young Eric Marlon Bishop (he changed his name thinking it would get him easier access to the mic at comedy clubs) not only excelled at music but was the quarterback of his high school football team.

That experience came into play years later when he landed his first serious film role in Oliver Stone’s gridiron drama *Any Given Sunday*. Acclaimed work in *Ali*, *Collateral*, *Jarhead*, *Dreamgirls* and *The Kingdom* followed. And although Foxx has yet to prove himself a huge box-office draw, he has gained the distinction of being the only African-American to earn two Oscar nominations in the same year (for *Ray* and *Collateral*). Add owning an Academy Award to also having a number one album, *Unpredictable*, and Foxx is in the rare company of only Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra and Barbra Streisand.

All that, plus he’s hung with Barack Obama and is known for throwing lavish and star-studded parties at his home overlooking the San Fernando Valley. But Foxx really does try

Nathaniel Ayers (Jamie Foxx) performs for journalist Steve Lopez (Robert Downey Jr.) Right: Downey and Foxx on the move



“I got a chance to watch him,” Foxx says of Nathaniel Ayers. “I didn’t want to meet him, because sometimes when you meet people, then they change”

to stay humble about it all. He even describes himself as working class.

“Things are happening so fast now, you don’t have time to sit back and just go, ‘Oh, let me bask,’” he cracks. “You accept the moment and really enjoy it, then you go back to work. That’s what I mean by working class. If you’re not paying attention to it

and you get caught up in yourself, you could easily find yourself going backwards, doing things that just aren’t good for you.

“Being the comedian at heart and being a musician.... Sometimes, when I’m doing a show at a club, maybe some of the people in the audience don’t even recognize the accomplishment,” he says. “They’re just into

what’s going on now; ‘You’re here in the club, what’s the joke, what’s the song, can I get that out of you right now?’”

It’s not just about pumping out the gags, the tunes or the movies, though. Perhaps applying some of his quarterback training, Foxx is always looking at the quality of the play, the overall game and the record book.

“I think the main thing is, whatever you’re doing, you try to do your best at it before it goes out,” Foxx says. “‘Cause once it’s on the YouTube, it’ll be bad forever or great forever! So that’s another hurdle to get over, making sure that everything’s right.”

Bob Strauss is an L.A.-based writer.

DID YA KNOW?

Michael Bishop, former quarterback for the Toronto Argonauts, and now the starting QB for the Saskatchewan Roughriders, is Jamie Foxx’s first cousin. It’s true. Foxx (whose real name is Eric Marlon Bishop) was also a football star — but only at his high school in Terrell, Texas. After that he gave up the gridiron to attend San Diego’s United States International University on a music scholarship.

Olga Kurylenko as Bond Girl Camille
Right: Gemma Arterton plays
Agent Fields

DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE

Burned by the death of his double-crossing girlfriend Vesper Lynd, James Bond may never love again. But that doesn't mean he can't have some fun. Enter the franchise's two new Bond Girls, Ukrainian spitfire **Olga Kurylenko** and English acting phenom **Gemma Arterton**

♦♦ BY DAVID GIAMMARCO

Ever since 1962's *Dr. No*, when Ursula Andress emerged dripping wet from the sparkling Caribbean sea clad only in a white bikini and a hunting knife, a pantheon of Bond Girls have steamed up 007's perilous missions.

As iconic as the gadgets, shaken-not-stirred vodka martinis, bespoke tuxedo and Walther PPK, the Bond Girls are always close at hand, always luscious, always libidinous. Whether taking off their clothes or taking a bullet for Bond, they have remained instrumental as 007 keeps "the British end up." But as *Casino Royale* and now *Quantum of Solace* have reinvented Bond for the 21st century, the Bond Girls have undergone a similar evolution.

"Women's roles have changed so much in the last 40 years that today, a lot of women are running the world," explains director Marc Forster,

on the Pinewood Studios set of *Quantum of Solace*. "So they can't simply just be a beautiful object anymore...they have to be a three-dimensional character and represent the equal."

Considering *Quantum of Solace* is a sequel, picking up exactly 20 minutes after *Casino Royale* ended with Bond brokenhearted and seething over the death of his double-crossing love Vesper Lynd, there are hints of less romance for the notorious ladies' man this time around. "We felt Bond could not immediately fall into another relationship," offers Bond producer Michael G. Wilson. "So we needed someone who had her own agenda and probably could not form a relationship either because of her situation."

Enter Olga Kurylenko, the stunning 28-year-old Ukrainian-born actor and former model who plays one of the film's two Bond Girls,

"They made me learn how to strip a gun apart and then put it back together," says Kurylenko. "I actually became quite good at it. I can do it in eight seconds flat!"

the rogue agent Camille. Like Bond, she is obsessed with revenge, also targeting the mysterious Dominic Greene (played by acclaimed French actor Mathieu Amalric).

"Camille is so focused on what she's undertaking, she doesn't care about meeting a boyfriend or something," explains Kurylenko between takes on the *Quantum of Solace* set. "Camille is a strong, feisty and very independent woman. She's almost like an equivalent to Bond. She's not like other Bond Girls that she's this poor thing he has to protect. She kick-boxes, fights and fires guns...she's a pretty tough girl."

Beating out more than a thousand actors, Kurylenko received word she had the role just last Christmas Eve, necessitating a two-month crash course in stunt and weapons training. "They kept pushing and pushing me, but I was glad they did because I was able to do all the fight scenes myself without a stunt double," says Kurylenko, proudly rolling up her sleeve to show me some of her bruises. "They made me learn how to strip a gun apart and then put it back together.... I actually became quite good at it. I can do it in eight seconds flat!"

Kurylenko admits her greatest accomplishment, however, was overcoming her fear of heights as she reluctantly agreed to skydive for one of the film's pivotal scenes. "I like to try things that seem impossible," she says. This from a woman who escaped abject poverty in the former USSR as a teenager after a chance encounter in Moscow propelled her to a successful modelling career in Paris. "I don't want things in life to be easy...then what am I going to overcome?"

Forster says that tenacity is what immediately distinguished Kurylenko from the throngs of hopefuls. "What really surprised me about the audition process was how many beautiful women there are in the world," says Forster. "But there are very few who I felt could go beyond the beauty and feel real and truly genuine. And every time I looked in Olga's eyes, there was something very truthful and somewhat pained...it might have to do with what she went through in her life."

Kurylenko proved a perfect match for Daniel Craig's more damaged and darker 007. "Bond is a psychologically handicapped human being and not stable," explains Forster. "There is this pain and isolation and sadness about him. And so there needed to be an honest reality on screen between Bond and Camille."

But rest assured, old habits die hard for James Bond. Craig admits the film doesn't shy away from 007's womanizing. "That's who James Bond is," he states. "But what we learned from *Casino Royale* is how this one woman came to form his future behaviour that we've come to know..."

"I mean, objectifying beauty is not a problem for me," continues Craig about the bevy of Bond babes. "Making things sexy, whether it's men or women, I don't have a problem with." **continued →**



From left: Joaquin Cosío, Mathieu Amalric and Kurylenko
Below: Daniel Craig with Arterton

➔➔➔ But when it comes to the Bond Girls, “I want to see a relationship,” he adds. “I want to see something firing off each other ‘cause I think that’s where the sexiness is, and that’s where the sexual tension is in a movie. So getting Olga into this movie has been very important...that relationship is quite complicated.”

However, Bond does indulge in some hot sex scenes with British actor Gemma Arterton, who plays MI6’s Agent Fields. “[She] and Bond very much come together and have this fling,” says Craig. “It’s a mutually beneficial experience.”

Arterton describes Agent Fields as a throwback to the retro Bond Girls of the ’60s. “The whole idea with my character was we want her to be a typical Ian Fleming Bond Girl with a somewhat modern twist,” says Arterton, 22, who landed the role only six months after graduating from London’s prestigious Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

In fact, Arterton has quickly amassed a vast body of work with leading roles in the BBC’s *Capturing Mary*, ITV’s *Lost in Austen*, as well as Brit flicks *St. Trinian’s* and Guy Ritchie’s crime thriller *RocknRolla*. And immediately after wrapping *Quantum of Solace*, Arterton hightailed it to Morocco to begin shooting Jerry Bruckheimer’s epic adventure *Prince of Persia* as the romantic lead opposite Jake Gyllenhaal.

Arterton says she’s still shocked by her rapid success. “I’ve done eight movies within a year from leaving drama school — it’s all happening so quickly I haven’t had time to really comprehend it all,” she admits, shaking her head in disbelief. “It’s pretty insane what’s happening to me...I still don’t know how this all happened so fast. It’s a bit mad, but brilliant at the same time.”

The daughter of a welder and a cleaner from Kent, Arterton says her parents are keeping her grounded throughout this dizzying



EXCUSE ME, CAN YOU PLEASE REPEAT YOUR NAME?

As much as we love the Bond franchise’s turn toward the more serious and realistic, there is one thing we kind of miss about the over-the-top Bond movies of yore — ridiculous Bond Girl names. Prior to Camille (Olga Kurylenko) and Agent Fields (Gemma Arterton), Bond Girls had names that made us gasp, giggle and, more often than not, blush. Here are our 10 favourite Bond Girl names of all time.

10. **HONEY RIDER** (*DR. NO*)
9. **TIFFANY CASE** (*DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER*)
8. **MARY GOODNIGHT** (*THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN GUN*)
7. **PENELOPE SMALLBONE** (*OCTOPUSSY*)
6. **HOLLY GOODHEAD** (*MOONRAKER*)
5. **DR. MOLLY WARMFLASH** (*THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH*)
4. **XENIA ONATOPP** (*GOLDENEYE*)
3. **OCTOPUSSY** (*OCTOPUSSY*)
2. **PLENTY O'TOOLE** (*DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER*)
1. **PUSSY GALORE** (*GOLDFINGER*)

experience. “They’re enormously proud of me, but certainly keep me in check,” she says with a laugh. “They come from a working class background, so they didn’t get to do what they wanted because they didn’t have the opportunities.... When they found out I was going to be a Bond Girl, they were so excited. I mean, being British, the Bond films were always a huge part of growing up in my household.”

Which is why Arterton relished paying homage to the “classic” Bond Girls of yesteryear. “Agent Fields is much more a fun character, with some very cheeky, cheesy lines,” she says, smiling. “I always loved those Sean Connery-era Bond Girls, like Honor Blackman and Diana Rigg, who were a bit priggish and snooty on the outside, but were really kinda’ naughty inside,” says Arterton.

“Because at the end of the day,” she adds, “it is a *James Bond* film after all!”

David Giammarco is a print and broadcast journalist and the author of *For Your Eyes Only: Behind the Scenes of the James Bond Films*.



ULTRA VIOLET

AND GRAPE AND AUBERGINE AND LILAC

◆ BY LIZA HERZ



This **Vibrant Purple Topcoat** from **Ralph Lauren** enlivens classic charcoal separates.

Can a colour become a neutral?

Trendy shades come and go and who wants to invest that much into a blink (last summer's acid-yellow patent shoes can become this season's shameful back-of-the-closet dust-catcher pretty quickly), so you might be skeptical looking at purple. But you'd be wrong.

Purple is the perfect fashion hit: As feminine as pink but without the Barbie or Paris Hilton connotations, on-trend without making you look like a fashion victim, and vibrant yet easy to wear. There is a shade of purple to suit every skin tone ranging from pale milky lavender and violet to amethyst and grape to aubergine (such a nicer word than eggplant).

Adding purple to your wardrobe instantly injects new life into any monochrome pieces that need juicing up. If you wear too much black (not that there's anything wrong with that) or have gotten yourself too caught up in last year's grey trend, well, purple plays well with both of them, allowing them to stay chic while being enlivened by colour. Orange could never do that. Add orange to black, you have Halloween. But purple will always look elegant (hey, royalty chose it for a reason).

Shades of purple are also a welcome addition to the modern makeup bag.

Legendary cosmetics creator Terry de Gunzburg, whose signature packaging for her "by Terry" line comes in a luxurious metallic grape, is happy to see purple's new reign and includes a purple eye shadow in every collection. As she recently told *Famous*, adding a refreshing twist to the old adage, "Purple has become the new black and light purple has become the new brown."



With a fitted bodice and generous sleeves, this flowy **Patrizia Top** from **Firetrap** (\$119, 1-866-240-2808 for stores) should be worn with narrow pants.



by Terry Eye Shadow in **Black Grape** (\$44, Holt Renfrew) gives smouldering definition, without defaulting to black.



Quo Nite Lite Lip Gloss in **Big Ben Blush** (\$15, Shoppers Drug Mart) is a silvered purple that is surprisingly wearable.



Clinique Fresh Bloom All-over Colour in **Blackberry Bloom** (\$39, department stores) creates a shimmery glow with a hint of colour.



The eye-popping purple of the **Lauren Bag** (\$278, Roots) is tempered by the casual practicality of the bag itself.



Satin detailing at the neckline of this **Vero Moda Dress** (\$55, The Bay) makes a necklace redundant.



Our number one pick for fall, patent leather **Samii Booties** (\$120, Aldo) blend subdued colour with high shine.



This purple resin and wood **Bidem Bangle** from **Caracol** (\$17, caracol.com for retailers) is the perfect mix of natural and synthetic.

MUSIC MAKERS

Serena Ryder's little white body hides a big, Black voice.
Tim McGraw bullies Vince Vaughn ♦♦ BY INGRID RANDOJA



Singers On Screen

Country music star **TIM MCGRAW** torments Vince Vaughn this month when he plays Vaughn's bullying older brother in the comedy *Four Christmases*. McGraw, last seen in *The Kingdom*, has also signed onto *Get Low*, about a recluse (Robert Duvall) who decides to have his funeral while he's alive so he can enjoy it, and is amazed when thousands of people show up.

DEATH INSPIRES SERENA RYDER

When Serena Ryder won the Juno for Best New Artist earlier this year, she dedicated the prize to her co-manager Bonnie O'Donnell, who died in January.

The devastating loss floored Ryder, yet it also inspired the 24-year-old to write about half the songs on her new CD, *is it o.k.* (available November 11th).

"When something like that happens to you in your life, and that had never happened to me before so it was a very, very intense time, everything stops," says Ryder on her cellphone from Dark Island (located in the St. Lawrence

Seaway), where she's recording an album with the band The Great Lake Singers. "I found I was more aware of the love that I have all around me."

And it's the theme of love, and the palpable loss of love, that you find running through the contemplative CD. Ryder is growing as a songwriter, and her distinctive bluesy, vibrato-tinged voice — imagine if Janis Joplin had been raised by Judy Garland — caresses each tune.

"My voice has always had a lot of vibrato, and it takes effort from me not to have vibrato and not be gravelly," she says. "I've

always been told, since I was a little kid, that when people close their eyes they think there's a big, Black woman singing, and when they open their eyes there's this skinny white thing."



VINTAGE VINYL

The Waking Eyes kick it old school with their third album, *holding on to whatever it is*, by actually releasing it as an album (you know those 12" vinyl things with a hole in the middle). The Winnipeg band draws on a variety of genres and the effort pays off big time. For those who don't own a record player, the CD hits shelves Nov. 4th.

OUT THIS MONTH

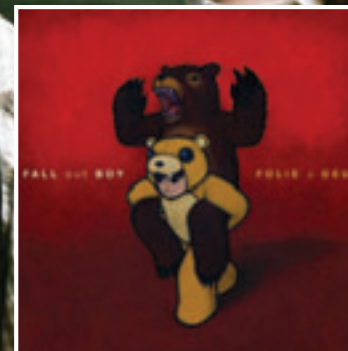
NOVEMBER 4 → The Lines - *Flood Bank* → Hinder - *Take It to the Limit*
→ Fall Out Boy - *Folie a Deux* NOVEMBER 11 → Brandy - *Human*
→ Spindrift - *The West* → Taylor Swift - *Fearless*
NOVEMBER 18 → Il Divo - *The Promise* → Nickelback - *Dark Horse*
NOVEMBER 25 → Tom Jones - *24 Hours* → The Killers - *Day & Age*

Go to HMV.ca for more information



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THE KILLERS DAY & AGE

The new album includes the hit single "HUMAN"
ALBUM IN STORES NOVEMBER 25TH, 2008



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HOTPLAY

Leaner, meaner **Bond** works better in pixel form, too ♦♦ BY SCOTT GARDNER



James Bond 007 in **Quantum of Solace** DS, PC, PS2, PS3, XBOX 360, WII

A new James Bond movie is always a reason to celebrate. A new James Bond videogame...not so much. That's because games based on movies usually stink. They tend to be blatant cash grabs thrown together for tie-in marketing, corporate synergy or whatever. In fact, there's a parallel of shame here: games based on movies tend to be just as bad as movies based on games. But just as 2006's *Casino Royale* defied expectations and rebooted the 40-year-old series with a leaner, meaner, more-credible Bond, the *Quantum of Solace* game promises big changes. Aesthetically, it's the first game to feature star Daniel Craig's likeness, which is impressively realistic, right down to his intense I'll-rip-your-effing-throat-out glare. Surprisingly, it's also the first Bond game for next-gen consoles, meaning top-notch cinematics and crafty AI opponents.

And this colder, more lethal Bond doesn't need silly gadgets like jetpacks or exploding sporks. Instead he's all about intense first-person shooting, including both one-on-one and large-scale melees. Some scenarios, however, call for covert ops, at which point the game switches to a third-person perspective so you can actually see (and control) Craig's wiry frame as he sneaks around, doing recon and silently dispatching foes.

Online multiplayer modes include "Bond vs. Bond" or "Golden Gun," but the real appeal is the story, beginning with missions from *Casino Royale*, and moving into the new movie. Because we've just gotta know: What the heck is a "Quantum of Solace?"

► **RELEASE DATE: NOVEMBER 4**



Mortal Kombat vs. DC Universe

PS3, XBOX 360

Isn't it nice when the title says it all? The great arcade fighting game returns with its classic characters lined up to beat the crap out of classic heroes and villains from DC Comics, including Batman, Catwoman, Superman, The Joker and Wonder Woman. Apparently there's a story, but who cares — just bring on the colourful, kaotic klose kombat.

► **RELEASE DATE: NOVEMBER 10**



Mirror's Edge

PC, PS3, XBOX 360

In a totalitarian (but clean and well-lit) dystopia, underground info moves via "runners" — extraordinary athletes who leap off buildings, vault fences and run up walls, parkour-style. The twist? First-person gameplay delivers a fresh sense of perspective as you traverse skyscrapers through the runner's eyes, eluding capture and the authorities.

► **RELEASE DATE: NOVEMBER 11**

 A large advertisement for the Buzz! Quiz TV game. It features the game's mascot, a cartoon character with blonde hair and glasses, holding a large red buzzer. The background is a blue grid pattern. Text includes "BUZZ! Quiz TV", "PLAYSTATION 3", "Become the Ultimate Game Show Champion!", and "Join Buzz in the perfect portable Quiz Show!". It also mentions "WAL-MART" and "WE SELL FOR LESS, EVERY DAY™".

BUZZ! Quiz TV

PLAYSTATION 3

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DVD RELEASES

BIG MOVIES COMING TO THE SMALL SCREEN BY MARNI WEISZ

November



Kung Fu Panda's martial arts misfit hero Po

NOVEMBER 4

Kit Kittredge: An American Girl**STARS:** Abigail Breslin, Julia Ormond**DIRECTOR:** Patricia Rozema (*Mansfield Park*)**STORY:** In Depression-era Cincinnati, little Kit Kittredge (Breslin) watches as her dad loses his job, her mom (Ormond) is forced to take in an assortment of strange boarders and her neighbours lose their houses because they can't pay

their mortgages. (Good thing that'll never happen again.) But Kit never loses her plucky attitude, especially when it comes to her dream of writing for the local paper.

NOVEMBER 9

Kung Fu Panda**VOICES:** Jack Black,

Dustin Hoffman

DIRECTORS: Mark Osborne, John Stevenson**STORY:** Po the Panda (Black) loves kung fu. But that doesn'tmean he's any good at it. He is, after all, lazy. But when, to everyone's surprise, Po is identified as the chosen one from an ancient prophecy he must train, train, train with Master Shifu (Hoffman) and the Furious Five if he's to have any chance of defeating the evil snow leopard Tai Lung (Ian McShane). **DVD Extras:** "Meet the Cast," Cee-Lo music video, "How to Use Chopsticks," "DreamWorks Animation Video JukeBox," printables and weblinks

NOVEMBER 11

This Christmas**STARS:** Loretta Devine, Regina King**DIRECTOR:** Preston A. Whitmore II (*Crossover*)**STORY:** It's been four years since the Whitfield family last spent Christmas together — a long time to build up secrets, like secret marriages, secret debts, secret dalliances... Let the bickering begin!**DVD Extras:** deleted scenes, Chris Brown music video

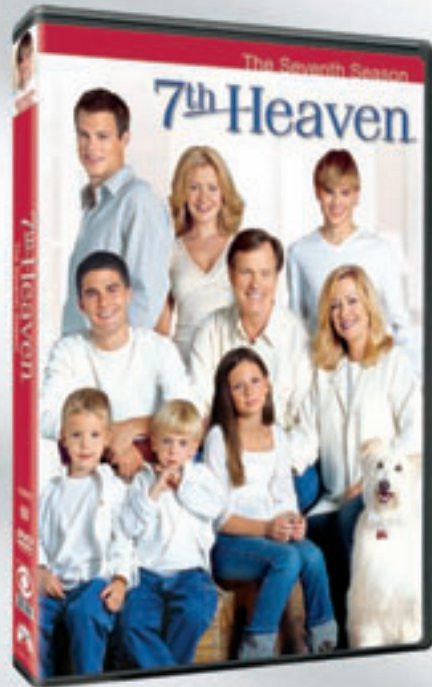
NOVEMBER 25

Fred Claus**STARS:** Vince Vaughn, Paul Giamatti**DIRECTOR:** David Dobkin (*Wedding Crashers*)**STORY:** Broke, Fred Claus (Vaughn) is forced to return home and ask for money. His brother Nicholas (Giamatti) — a.k.a. Santa — agrees to lend a hand, but only if Fred helps out at the family factory prior to their busy season.**Hancock****STARS:** Will Smith, Jason Bateman**DIRECTOR:** Peter Berg (*The Kingdom*)**STORY:** John Hancock (Smith) is a bad superhero. Every time he saves someone he does damage that offsets the good. So a PR whiz (Bateman) offers to help improve Hancock's miserable public image. **DVD Extras:** "Seeing the Future," "Building a Better Hero," "Bumps and Bruises"

continued →

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NOT RATED



THE GOODS»

→ Meet Dave

STARS: Eddie Murphy,
Elizabeth Banks
DIRECTOR: Brian Robbins
(*Norbit*)

STORY: Murphy plays the captain of a spaceship full of tiny humanoid aliens that assumes human form in order to disguise itself on a trip to Earth. Get it? The ship looks like a person. And the person that it looks like is its captain, Murphy. Their mission on Earth is to drain our planet of its water and take the H₂O back to their dying planet. But after falling in love with a hot Earthling (Banks), the captain has second thoughts. **DVD Extras:** gag reel, crew confessions

Space Chimps

VOICES: Andy Samberg,
Cheryl Hynes
DIRECTOR: Kirk De Micco
(*debut*)

STORY: Having lost an important probe in a wormhole, NASA recruits HAM III (Samberg), a descendent of HAM I, the first chimpanzee sent into space, to follow in his grandfather's hairy footsteps and find it. **DVD Extras:** casting session, still gallery

Vicky Cristina Barcelona

STARS: Javier Bardem,
Scarlett Johansson
DIRECTOR: Woody Allen
(*Scoop*)

STORY: Two bestest friends from the States — repressed Vicky (Rebecca Hall) and carefree Cristina (Johansson) — spend the summer before Vicky is to get married in Barcelona. There, the women are propositioned by a lusty Spanish artist (Bardem) who wants to take either, or preferably both, to bed.



SPOTLIGHT

WALL•E

Scathing satire on the lazy American lifestyle, or insensitive affront to the overweight? Either way, just the fact that this animated movie spawned such debate is saying something.

The tale of WALL•E, a trash-compacting robot left on Earth to clean up our mess after we hightailed it into space, was one of the most acclaimed movies of 2008 (following in the footsteps of its creator Pixar's last feature-length cartoon, *Ratatouille*).

Several hundred years after humans evacuate Earth they send another robot, EVE, back to investigate. WALL•E instantly falls for the egg-shaped automaton. But when EVE comes in contact with a living plant she speeds back to her mother ship to report that Earth is once again habitable.

Little WALL•E manages to hitch a ride on her spacecraft, and once he reaches the mother ship finds it populated with grossly out of shape humans who ride around in chairs and slurp sodas all day.

The DVD comes with "Presto Amazing," the short film that was shown in theatres before *WALL•E*, plus a brand-new animated short, deleted scenes, "WALL•E's Tour of the Universe," a conversation with sound designer Ben Burt (the voice of WALL•E) and a director commentary. There will also be a three-disc Collector's Edition with loads more.

➔ **RELEASE DATE: NOV. 18**

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STARGAZING

HOROSCOPE FOR NOVEMBER 2008 ♦♦ BY DAN LIEBMAN



Maggie Gyllenhaal

SIGN: Scorpio

BORN: November 16, 1977

WHERE: New York, New York

Scorpio

October 23 ★ November 21

You're not as intuitive as usual and can misjudge people, especially between the 10th and 18th. Competing offers arrive and you need to weigh every pro against every con. It's generally a good time for rebuilding friendships.

Sagittarius

November 22 ★ December 22

November is off to a creative start. You excel in the arts and also bring an imaginative solution to a romantic or professional dilemma. Establish yourself in a new field. A recent investigation of suspicious events brings surprising results.

Capricorn

December 23 ★ January 20

Acquaintances aren't as generous as they make themselves out to be. Asking for favours — especially after the 15th — can be dicey. Someone who's been a little cool finally appreciates your unique sense of humour. There's the potential for real friendship here.

Aquarius

January 21 ★ February 19

Your training and experience over the past 11 months finally pays off. You'll also acquire valuable job information. A one-time close friend is jockeying to get back into your good graces. Some leads are better than others.

Pisces

February 20 ★ March 20

Your current strong points include a sharp eye for detail, design and bargains. A job you thought long completed comes back for finishing touches. You'll deal with new professionals and shouldn't hesitate to check their backgrounds.

Aries

March 21 ★ April 20

Work pressures flare up during the first week, then ease. By the 15th you'll be able to focus on a key job. You and a friend complement each other, and it's a good month to enter into a shared arrangement. Update your wardrobe but avoid going retro.

Taurus

April 21 ★ May 21

Close friends compete for your support. You're best to be like Switzerland and remain neutral. Stay current by reading newspapers and magazines — even sections that don't usually interest you. The information you pick up will prove valuable early in 2009.

Gemini

May 23 ★ June 21

Small but meaningful advances take place in your professional life. A financial idea is promising, but don't announce it yet. You help a friend over a romantic impasse. In the process, you discover something important about one of your own relationships.

Cancer

June 22 ★ July 22

It's a good month to promote your own story. Start an autobiography, or at the very least update your résumé. November also makes use of your entrepreneurial side. Be careful after the 13th that you don't reveal private information.

Leo

July 23 ★ August 22

Expect to spend time in an unfamiliar setting. Diplomatic skills are highly effective in professional settings.

Virgo

August 23 ★ September 22

You begin November with a surge of independence and soon take charge of a family matter. Your approach toward money changes too, as you're more willing to spend a little.

Libra

September 23 ★ October 22

The trivia you've been soaking up comes in handy and leads to recognition. A new workout program revitalizes you.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st: Toni Collette
2nd: k.d. lang
3rd: Dennis Miller
4th: Matthew McConaughey
5th: Tatum O'Neal
6th: Ethan Hawke
7th: Joni Mitchell
8th: Parker Posey
9th: Nikki Blonsky
10th: Ellen Pompeo
11th: Leonardo DiCaprio
12th: Ryan Gosling
13th: Whoopi Goldberg
14th: Harland Williams
15th: Sam Waterston
16th: Maggie Gyllenhaal
17th: Danny DeVito
18th: Elizabeth Perkins
19th: Jodie Foster
20th: Bo Derek
21st: Goldie Hawn
22nd: Scarlett Johansson
23rd: Miley Cyrus
24th: Katherine Heigl
25th: Christina Applegate
26th: Tina Turner
27th: Michael Vartan
28th: Ed Harris
29th: Howie Mandel
30th: Ben Stiller

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FAMOUS LAST WORDS

OUR READERS HAVE THEIR SAY

We asked you...

Which professional athlete most deserves to have their life story made into a movie?



“ Wayne Gretzky because I think The Great One should be honoured like Maurice Richard was [in *The Rocket*]. He was the best on all the teams that he played for. That’s good! ”

—Victor Prive, Kirkland, PQ

You told us...

“ Tim Horton. He had a solid hockey career, along with a vision outside of hockey. His life ended tragically, but his name lives on. ”

—Mick Pariseau, Lethbridge, AB

“ Without question, Jim Brown is most deserving. All-American in lacrosse at Syracuse, the most dominating runner in NFL history, movie star, prominent civil rights leader who has provided guidance to troubled youth for years — his story would be really compelling. ”

—Jeff Manishen, Burlington, ON

“ Monica Seles for sure. Her career was cut short when she played the brilliant Steffi Graf, who had a crazy fan that stabbed Monica Seles on the court! ”

—Lilian Ruiz-Zsoldos, White Rock, BC

“ Brian Orser. From his humble beginnings in a small Ontario town, to his intense training which led to the battle of the Brians at the 1988 Olympics, and a silver medal, to his battle for privacy. ”

—Nicholas Bock, Toronto, ON

NEXT QUESTION: Which movie would you like to see remade with Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie in the lead roles?



ANSWER ONLINE at Cineplex.com/famouslastwords

All responses must be entered by November 30th. Look for the answers to this question in the January issue. Responses may be edited for length and clarity.



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